

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 16, 2006. Claims 33 to 37 are in the application, with Claims 33 to 37 having been amended herein. Claims 33, 36 and 37 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Turning first to a formal matter, Applicant respectfully requests an interview with the Examiner prior to issuance of a next action in the application. Applicant's representative will contact the Examiner to schedule an interview in due course.

Turning now to the substance of the Office Action, Claims 33 to 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,633,400 (Sasaki). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention generally concerns a print processing apparatus capable of communicating with a print management apparatus via a network. A document is formed by using an application program. An inquiry is made from the print management apparatus whether a printer information description file stored in the print management apparatus is updated. Information is received for accessing the printer information description file from the print management apparatus as a response to the inquiry. The printer information description file is downloaded from the print management apparatus on the basis of the information for accessing. In addition, print data is formed in accordance with the printer information description file by using a printer driver.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claims 33, 36 and 37 are respectively directed to an apparatus, a method and a computer-readable storage medium.

Thus, among its many features, the present invention provides for (i) inquiring from a print management apparatus whether a printer information description file stored in the print management apparatus is updated, (ii) receiving information for accessing the printer information description file from the print management apparatus as a response to the inquiry, and (iii) downloading the printer information description file from the print management apparatus on the basis of the information for accessing. The applied reference of Sasaki is not seen to disclose or suggest at least these features.

As understood by Applicant, Sasaki discloses a print system that includes a client apparatus, a printer server apparatus, and a printer apparatus. See Sasaki, Abstract. If a new color profile has been input to a receiving directory, a printer description file is updated by adding the name of the newly input color profile to the printer description file. The updated printer description file is output to client PCs from the printer server apparatus. See Sasaki, column 15, line 60 to column 16, line 1; and steps S25 and S26 of Figure 8.

As such, Sasaki is seen to disclose the updating and outputting of a printer description file if a new color profile has been input into a receiving directory. However, nothing in Sasaki is seen to disclose or suggest inquiring from a print management apparatus whether a printer information description file stored in the print management apparatus is updated, muchless receiving information for accessing the printer information description file from the print management apparatus as a response to the inquiry. Moreover, Sasaki is not seen to disclose or suggest downloading the printer information description file from the print management apparatus on the basis of the information for accessing.

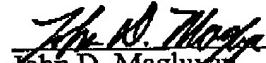
Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 33, 36 and 37 as amended are believed to be allowable over the applied reference.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied reference for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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